

after the word 'State' where it next occurs the words, 'or at any municipal election in the city of Baltimore.' "

Mr. Wethered had seen lager beer patriots with their bludgeons coming into Baltimore county and hurraing for the third ward. The present Senator from that county was elected by fraudulent votes, and he stood here to prove it in any court of justice. The counties which did not want a registry law might in the future be subjected to the same incursions, and it behooves them to prepare. With a uniform registry law he would guarantee that the old Gibraltar of democracy would send up a majority of 2,000.

Mr. Wallace was in favor of a uniform system of registration throughout the State. There was no danger now from the Rip-Raps, Blood-Tubs or other villainous organizations from the city of Baltimore. The danger came from another quarter. It came from the hordes of vagrant negroes that would be imported into this State of Maryland to get control of it, if negro suffrage was proclaimed by Congress, which was now hardly to be doubted. The District of Columbia was now ground to powder by this same process. If this thing was attempted in Maryland, they would send an adequate force to break it up. If this registry system prevailed in Baltimore and the larger counties, these hordes would pass by and invade the shore counties. He had fought against this system, but he had now commanded his prejudices to bow down to his duty. This registration was their only protection, and now when they had the power to secure it, it was not prudent to let the opportunity pass.

Mr. Groome said the registry laws had been framed not to secure the purity of the ballot box, but to exclude the majority of the people of this State from that ballot box. In 1863, thirty soldiers from Fort Delaware had come to his election district in Cecil county, and despite the fact that they could show no residence and give no satisfactory account of themselves, they were allowed to vote. He (Mr. G.) challenged their votes and the result was that he was arrested by military authority for interfering with the purity of the election, and was informed by the military that the soldiers had the right to vote in Maryland if they had only been here one hour. His col-